FORM PTC (REV. 9-20		IMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER					
-	TRANSMITTAL LETTER	2406400-2						
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, are 37 CFR.)								
-,		IG UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371						
	NATIONAL APPLICATION NO. P00/08704	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 06 September 2000 (06/09/00)	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 06 September 1999 (06/09/99)					
TITLE	OF INVENTION	ING AND CONTROLLING THE OPERAT	TIONAL PERFORMANCE					
	CANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US	ING AND CONTROLLING THE CITETY						
	PLA	NKI, Peter et al.						
Applica		ntes Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)	the following items and other information:					
1. X		concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.	1 of Magazin					
2.		T submission of items concerning a filing u						
3.	items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated							
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_		only if not communicated by the Internation	nal Bureau).					
	b. has been communicated by	the International Bureau.						
	c. is not required, as the appl	cation was filed in the United States Receivi	ng Office (RO/US).					
6.	_ ~ ~ ~	ne International Application as filed (35 U.S.	C. 371(c)(2)).					
	a. is attached hereto.	tted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).						
7.		ernational Aplication under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))					
′ 'L		ed only if not communicated by the Internation						
	b. have been communicated by the International Bureau.							
	c. have not been made; howe	ver, the time limit for making such amendme	ents has NOT expired.					
	d. have not been made and w	ill not be made.						
8. 🔲	An English language translation of the	ne amendments to the claims under PCT Artic	cle 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).					
9.	An oath or declaration of the invento	or(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).						
10.	·							
	Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).		\$2.50 \$2.50					
Item	ns 11 to 20 below concern documen							
11	An Information Disclosure Stateme							
12.		ding. A separate cover sheet in compliance	with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.					
13.	A FIRST preliminary amendment. EXPRESS MAIL LAGEL NO.							
14. 📙	A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. EV 000 475 766 US							
15.								
16.	A change of power of attorney and							
17. 🔲	A computer-readable form of the se	equence listing in accordance with PCT Rule	13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.					
18.	A second copy of the published int	ernational application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d	l)(4).					
19. 🔲	A second copy of the English lang	uage translation of the international application	on under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).					
20.	Other items or information:							
	INTERNATIONAL SEAR	RCH REPORT (ENGLISH AND GERMAN	N VERSIONS)					

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if know	wn, see 37 CFR 1.5) IN	ternational application no.	PCT/EP00/08704	ATTORNEY'S 2406400	DOCKET NUMBER -2			
21 V The fellow	ing fees are submitted:			CALCULATION	S PTO USE ONLY			
_	FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a)							
	al preliminary examination							
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International prelim USPTO but Interna	ninary examination fee (3 ational Search Report pre	7 CFR 1.482) not paid to pared by the EPO or JPO	\$890.00					
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and all claims satisf	fied provisions of PCT A	rticle 33(1)-(4)	\$100.00	0				
		BASIC FEE AMOU		\$ \$890.00				
Surcharge of \$130.0 months from the ear	0 for furnishing the oath liest claimed priority date	or declaration later than e (37 CFR 1.492(e)).	20 30	\$				
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$				
Total claims	8 -20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$				
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	<u> </u>	x \$84.00	\$				
MULTIPLE DEPEN	DENT CLAIM(S) (if ap		+ \$280.00	\$ \$280.00				
	TOTAL C	F ABOVE CALCU	LATIONS =	\$ \$1,170.00				
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		SU	JBTOTAL =	\$ \$585.00				
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		NAL FEE =	\$					
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		TOTAL FEES E	NCLOSED =	\$ \$585.00				
		Amount to be refunded:	\$					
		charged:	\$					
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NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.								
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	1-816-474-3216							

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10 Revision 10 3 APR 2002

THE OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF A COMPUTER OR PROCESSOR SYSTEM

The present invention relates to a method and device for monitoring and controlling the operational performance of a computer or processor system and a device for accomplishing this method.

Serviceability and operational reliability of components, assembly groups, devices and hence a computer or processor system as a whole is only protected within certain tolerance zones of physical values in their environment. These physical values are particularly temperature, but also air humidity, air flow, freedom of dust and percussions. Depending upon the field of application of the system to be monitored, brightness oscillations, chemical pollutions or other variables may also be of importance. If one or more of these values lie beyond the predetermined tolerance zones, this may lead to interferences of the performance of the respective component, but also to a complete failure thereof. At worst, the failure of one individual component may lead to a collapse of the complete system.

Particularly in case of larger computer or processor systems, as for example mainframe computers or multiprocessor systems a continuous and faultless operation is of great importance and in particular as calculations on these devices often run over a very long period of time so that a failure of the system at a certain time probably ruins the work of several days. For this reason, temperature monitoring systems are known measuring the temperature at individual components of the system and when detecting an inadmissibly increased temperature switch off the respective component, for example, or – in case of a processor – effect a decrease of performance by mans of reducing the clock frequency. In particularly critical cases a controlled shutdown of the complete system is effected.

It is the main object of the hitherto known monitoring systems to avoid a sudden collapse of the complete system due to a previous shutdown of individual components or the controlled shutdown of the system. This may avoid the loss of data, but often leads to

a drastic reduction of the performance of the complete system, which often would not be necessary to this extent.

Hence it is the object of the present invention to provide a possibility of monitoring and controlling the operational performance of a computer or processor system, wherein the influence of a fault on the serviceability of the monitored system is reduced and the serviceability thereof is maintained or prolonged in case of controllable incidents. Active calculation processes as well as their data bases and results are to be protected to the greatest possible extent.

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This object is solved by the method of claim 1 and the device of claim 4. According to the inventive method the operational parameters of individual components of the computer or processor system to be monitored as well as environmental parameters thereof are detected in a first step. In a second step the detected parameters and environmental parameters are compared with predetermined limit values. Thereby it is detected, if one or several of said detected operational parameters and environmental parameters have exceeded or fallen below of said predetermined limit values. Based upon these limit values that have been exceeded or fallen below of, a so-called operational event is determined in a next step, informing how and to which extent the system is affected by these faults. Then a reaction corresponding to the afore determined operational event is selected from a number of predetermined reaction patters and finally a control command for altering the operational performance corresponding to said reaction is transmitted to the computer or processor system to be monitored.

Hence, according to the invention a reaction is initiated in dependence upon the kind and intensity of a fault occurring in the system to be monitored, said reaction avoiding damages of components, assembly groups, devices and consequently of the computer or processor system as a whole, which would have occurred in cased of an unrestricted continuation of the operation. If the parameters lie beyond tolerable limit values a controlled shutdown of the complete system may be initiated. Moreover, there is the possibility of re-activating or running up individual components or even the complete system, if the fault has been removed or at least reduced.

Contrary to the hitherto known solutions for monitoring computer or processor systems the inventive method guarantees the continuation of the serviceability of the system with highest possible efficiency and simultaneous protection of the active computing processes. This is due to the fact that the individual components are monitored independently of each other by measuring sensors and that when predetermined limit values are reached a complete shutdown of the complete system and hence an interruption of the running programs does not have to be effected necessarily. Quite to the contrary, if justifiable, the individual components, assembly groups or devices are switched off individually or reduced in their performance, whereby the system as a whole, however, remains operable. Thereby, the predetermined reaction patters allow a fault-adequate reaction as well as specific monitoring and selecting of the individual components.

It is also an advantage of the present invention that in contrast t the hitherto known monitoring systems this system enables a complete monitoring of potential interferences within and outside the computer or processor system and not only a monitoring of the temperature. Thus, the interferences of too high air humidity, too low air flow, of dust or percussions may also be detected and taken into account. Further, the inventive method may be applied independent of buses and hence of producers in all kinds of systems, guaranteeing the highest possible amount of flexibility. This refers to already existing systems or computer or processor systems to be still produced.

According to an embodiment of the present invention the detected operational parameters or environmental parameters are not absolutely measured values but also temporal changes of these measured values. This offers the possibility to meet appropriate countermeasures. Thus, a very rapid temperature rise of a monitored component leads to another reaction than a merely moderate rise. It may furthermore be provided that besides the transmission of the control command corresponding to a selected reaction also a corresponding information signal is to be issued in an optical or acoustic form, in order to inform a service staff as soon as possible of place and reason of the fault. This information signal may also be the transmission of a SMS-message.

The device according to the invention for monitoring and controlling the operational performance on the one hand comprises first sensors for detecting operational parameters and on the other hand second sensors for detecting environmental parameters of the system. A monitoring unit for comparing the detected operational and environmental parameters with limit values stored in a first storage as well as for detecting if one or several of the limit values have been exceeded or fallen below of, is further provided. Due to appropriate means an operational event message is generated on basis of the exceeding or falling below of said limit values and are transmitted to a control unit, selecting from another storage containing a number of predetermined reaction patters a control command corresponding to said operational event message and transmitting same to said computer or processor system.

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In a further embodiment, the inventive device may comprise an acoustic or optical output means for outputting a message corresponding to the operational event message and/or the transmitted control command. Further, a transmitting device for communicating this message, for example in form of a SMS-message, may be provided. The independent control of the system is guaranteed in that the monitoring device is part of a computer which is separate from the system to be monitored.

In the following the invention is explained in greater detail in the drawings:

Fig. 1 shows an inventive device for monitoring a computer system in a schematic view; and

Figs. 2 to 4 show different examples for explaining the reaction to the temperature rise of a component to be monitored.

Fig. 1 shows the monitoring of a mainframe computer 1 by an inventive monitoring device 2. Thereby, several first sensors 3 are arranged in said mainframe computer 1, detecting operational parameters of individual components or assembly groups of said mainframe computer and transmitting said data via respective lines 4 to said monitoring device 2. Said first sensors 3 are for example temperature sensors, but also sensors for detecting voltage fluctuations, percussions or other values which are relevant for the

operation. Besides said first sensors second sensors are provided for detecting parameters in the environment of said mainframe computer 1, as for example sensors for detecting chemical pollutions of the air, dust or smoke, air humidity or in certain cases also of ionising radiation. These sensors may particularly be temperature sensors. The measured values detected by said second sensors are also transmitted via respective lines 6 to said monitoring device 2.

The operational and environmental parameters detected by said first and second sensors 3 and 5 first of all are being processed in a monitoring unit 7 of said monitoring device 2, whereby the detected values are compared to limit values, which are listed in a first memory 8. Thereby, it is not necessary to provide only one single limit value for each monitored value. Moreover, preferably several limit values, a lower, a mean as well as an upper limit value are provided so that it is possible to react specifically to the occurrence of a fault. When exceeding the lower limit value, for example, only a slight change of the operational performance of the computer system is necessary, whereas when the upper limit value is exceeded, this leads to a shutdown of the respective component or possibly even of the complete system.

If one or more of the limit values stored in said first memory 8 are exceeded or fallen below of, this is detected by said monitoring unit 7 and a corresponding operational event message is generated on basis of exceeding or falling below of the limit values, which then is communicated to said control unit 9. This operational event message informs about kind and extent of the fault. In the following the control unit 9 selects one control command corresponding to the operational event message from a number of predetermined reaction patterns contained in a second memory 10, and transmits said control command to the mainframe computer 1. This control command contains instructions for altering the operational performance and for example may be the instruction to shut down individual components or put them into a sleep modus or to reduce the capacity of the system. Furthermore, also the command to shut down the complete system may be transmitted. Thereby, the reaction patterns are chosen such that the mainframe computer 1 and the programs running thereon may still continue under the new operational conditions predetermined by said reaction patterns, if this is justifiable.

Once the influence of the fault has been successfully removed or at least reduced, a control command transferred from said monitoring device 2 to said mainframe computer 11 may contain, however, to run up the system again and to re-activate components which have been shut down before. If the monitoring unit has generated an operational event message or the control unit has transmitted a control command, simultaneously a respective information signal may be transmitted to a transmission device 15 via a second output line 14. Then, for example, respective SMS-messages may be transmitted to the service staff by means of said transmission device 15. As an alternative there is also the possibility of applying an optical or acoustic output means instead of a transmission device.

Preferably, the complete monitoring device 2 is part of a computer which is separate from the monitored mainframe computer 1. The flexibility of the inventive device is guaranteed in that new limit values and new reaction patters may be inscribed into the two memories 8 and 10 via input lines 12 and 13. <this provides the possibility of a reaction to changes in the configuration of the system to be monitored at any time. This further provides the possibility of an isolated view not only of the performance of individual operational or environmental parameters, but to evaluate them in combination and to react accordingly. A slight temperature increase of a monitored component, for example, does not necessarily have to lead to a shutdown of this component, if an adjacent component shows a clearly increased temperature, as the reason for the temperature increase of said first component very likely is to be found in the severe overheating of the adjacent component. In such a case, it is first sufficient to only shut down the severely overheated component.

Based on the example of the monitoring of the temperature the functioning of the inventive method is to be described in an exemplary manner in the following. Particularly the temperature monitoring of the individual components is of increasing importance as due to the increase of performance and increase of packing density of the components, demanded by the market and related to the general development, lead to problems in controlling the temperature. Figures 2 to 4 show the temperature course of a component be monitored, for example a processor. In the present example three different limit values, a lower, a mean and an upper limit value are defined, causing different reactions when

being exceeded or fallen below of. Furthermore, the example shown in Figures 2 to 4 not only refers to the absolute temperature value but also to the course of time.

In Fig. 2, for example, a moderate temperature increase is detected for the monitored time, during the course of which merely the lower limit value is exceeded. Thus, if the lower limit is exceeded, first only the performance of the monitored processor is reduced, for example by reducing the clock frequency. As an alternative, however, also the performance of a respective refrigerating set may be increased. If these measures are successful, the system may be continued to be operated in this mode until the service staff arrives, who has been informed by a message transmitted simultaneously by means of the respective control command. A shutdown of the component or of the complete system is not necessary in this case.

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In case of a faster temperature rise, as for example shown in Fig. 3, the afore described measures do not lead to success and in the course of time also the other two limit values are exceeded. When the upper limit value is exceeded, at the latest a shutdown of the monitored processor has become necessary. If, due thereto, the temperature falls below the predetermined limit values again, the complete system may be continued to be operated with shutdown processor until the arrival of the service staff. If, however, the shutdown of the processor does not lead to a temperature decrease either – for example within a predetermined time limit – it is safer to run down the complete system by means of the shutdown procedure, in order to store the already existing data.

An abrupt temperature rise, as shown in Fig. 4, however, is indicative of an extraordinary fault demanding the immediate shutdown of the complete system in any case. Due to the severe temperature rise the exceeding of further limit values it is not to be waited for , but the shutdown is to be initiated immediately.

The consideration of a time variations of a monitored parameter may, for example, also be effected by a separate sensor, exclusively detecting the variations of the monitored values. There is another possibility in detecting the time points at which certain limit values are exceeded or fallen below of and, on basis thereof, drawing a conclusion concerning the time behaviour.

According to the invention also a number of other values of measurement besides the temperature may be monitored. Thereby the respective reaction pattern not only depends upon the measured value itself, but also on the respective place of measurement. A number of possible reaction patterns is enlisted in the following table. Therein GW describes a parameter to be monitored, the exceeding of which leads to a shutdown of the respective component or that it is put into a sleep modus. The definition of one single limit value is sensible in cases where the respective component either should be fully operating or not operating a all. In other cases preferably several limit values are defined, i.e. a lower, a mean and an upper limit value, in order to be able to react in a graded manner.

WA 636522.1

TABLE: REACTION PATTERNS

Measured values	Place of	Reaction pattern (exemplary)
	measurement	
1. temperature	 a) at the individual component or at a device b) at the air inlet c) outside computer housing in the room d) external, e.g. adjacent rooms firealarm etc. 	 e) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device (sleepmodus) f) IGW: reduce system performance mGW: switch off ventilator uGW: controlled system shutdown g) same as b) h) fixed to local facts
2. air humidity	 a) at the individual component or at a device b) at the air inlet c) outside computer housing in the room 	 d) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device (sleepmodus) e) IGW: reduce system performance mGW: switch off ventilator uGW: controlled system shutdown f) same as b)
3. percussion (acceleration of frequency)	a) at the individual component or at a deviceb) at the computer housing	 c) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device (sleepmodus) d) IGW: rotating devices (e.g. hard disks) shutdown uGW: controlled system shutdown
4. air flow	a) at the individual component or at a device b) at the air outlet	c) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device (sleepmodus) d) IGW: reduce system performance uGW: controlled system shutdown
5. dust, smoke, aerosol (e.g. optoelectronical measurement)	a) at the air inlet b) outside computer housing in the room	c) IGW: reduce system performance mGW: switch off ventilator uGW: controlled system shutdown d) same as a)
6. chemical pollution of the air (e.g. electrical conductibility of the air, ph-value)	 a) at the individual component or at a device b) at the air inlet c) outside computer housing in the room 	 d) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device e) IGW: reduce system performance mGW: switch off ventilator f) uGW: controlled system shutdown g) same as b)

7. electro-magnetic-field	a) at the individual	c) GW: shutdown of the individual
	component or at a device b) outside computer housing in the room	component, the device d) IGW: reduce system performance uGW: controlled system shutdown
8. voltage oscillation	a) at the individual component or at a device b) main voltage	c) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device d) (in case of no UPS:) IGW: reduce system performance uGW: controlled system shutdown
9. brightness oscillation (optoelectronic)	at the individual component or at a device	b) (relevant for optoelectronic components GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device
10. ionised radiation (X-ray radiation, radio-active radiation)	a) at the individual component or at a deviceb) outside computer housing in the room	 c) GW: shutdown of the individual component, the device d) IGW: reduce system performance uGW: controlled system shutdown
11. further measurements to be defined	J.	. <i>I</i> :

GW=limit value IGW = lower limit value mGW=mean limit value uGW=upper limit value

Thereby, the monitoring of temperature is not only possible at the individual components but for example also at an air intake channel of the system, outside the system, in a room and in adjacent rooms. A change of temperature at the air intake channel may, for example, result in a change of the behaviour of the ventilator, as may be seen from the table.

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Another parameter which is essential for the operational behaviour is the air humidity, which again may be detected at the element itself but also at the air intake channel or outside in the room. Here, an increased air humidity at the air intake channel may lead to the fact that first the system performance is reduced or the ventilator is switched off. Only as the upper limit value is exceeded, the system has to be shut down in a controlled manner for safety reasons.

Percussions occurring inside or outside the system may also be monitored and therefore rotating elements like disk drives could be shut down, if justifiable.

If, however, the percussions become too severe, a controlled shutdown of the system is necessary. Further parameters to be monitored may be the air flow the contents of dust, smoke or aerosols as well as chemical pollutions of the air. Again, a simple measure may be to initially shut down the ventilator. If this does not lead to a success and if an upper limit value is exceeded, the consequence is a system shutdown.

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Furthermore, the electromagnetic field intensity or voltage oscillations may be monitored. If optoelectronic components are used, brightness oscillations may further be taken into account. Finally, if necessary, the influence of ionising radiation may be taken into account in order to avoid any incidents.

It is the object of the inventive method to offer a maximum amount of flexibility and at the same time to enable an appropriate reaction to incidents of any kind. This offers the possibility to keep the system to be monitored operating while maintaining the largest possible performance.

5 Claims

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- Method for monitoring and controlling the operational performance of a a computer or processor system (1) comprising the following steps:
- (a) detecting operational parameters of individual components as well as of

environmental components of the computer or processor system (1);

(b) comparing the detected operational parameters and environmental parameters with

predetermined limit values;

(c) determining, if predetermined limit values are exceeded or fallen below of by one or

several of said detected operational parameters and environmental parameters;

- (d) determining an operational event on basis of said limit values that have been exceeded or fallen below of:
- (e) selecting s reaction corresponding to said determined operational event from a number of predetermined reaction patterns; and
 - (f) transmitting a control command to alter the operational performance corresponding to said selected reaction to said computer or processor system (1).

2. Method of claim 1,

characterized in

that the detected operational parameters or environmental parameters are absolute measured values as well as the temporal change of said measured value.

3. Method of one of the preceding claims,

characterized in

that besides the transmission of the control command corresponding to the selected reaction also a corresponding information signal is transmitted.

4. A device for monitoring and controlling the operational performance of a computer or processor system (1), comprising:

parameters of individual first sensors (3) for detecting operational 5 components of said computer or processor system (1),

second sensors (5) for detecting environmental parameters of said computer or processor system (1),

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a monitoring unit (7) for comparing said detected operational and environmental parameters with limit values stored in a first storage (8) as well as for detecting, if one or several limit values are being exceeded or fallen below of,

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means for generating a determined operational event message on basis of said limit values that have been exceeded or fallen below of, and

a control unit (9) for receiving said operational event message as well as for 20

selecting and transmitting a control command corresponding to said operational event message to said computer and processor system (1) from a storage (10) containing a number of predetermined reaction patterns.

5. Device of claim 4.

characterized in

that said detected operational parameters or environmental parameters are absolute measured values as well as the temporal changes of said measured value.

6. Device of claim 4 or 5, 30

characterized in

that said device further comprises an optical or acoustic output means for outputting a message corresponding to said operational event message and/or said transmitted control command.

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7. Device of one of claims 4 to 6,

characterized in

that said device comprises a transmission means (15) for transmitting a message corresponding to said operational event message and/or to said transmitted control command.

8. Device of one of claims 4 to 7,

characterized in

that said device is part of a computer which is separate from the computer or processor system (1) to be monitored.

Summary

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In order to monitor and control the operational performance of a computer system or processor system (1), operational parameters of individual components as well as environmental parameters of the computer system or processor system (1) are detected. Said parameters are compared with predetermined limit values. If it is determined that one or more of the detected operational parameters and environmental parameters have exceeded or fallen below of the predetermined limit values, an operational event is determined based on the limit values that have been exceeded or fallen bellow of. A reaction is selected from a number of predetermined reaction patterns according to the determined operational event, and a control command which corresponds to this reaction and which is provided for altering the operational performance is transmitted to the computer to be monitored. This enables an early detection of the occurrence of faults as well as the initiation of an appropriate measure.

(12) NACH DEM VERTRAG ÜBER DIE INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT AUF DEM GEBIET DES PATENTWESENS (PCT) VERÖFFENTLICHTE INTERNATIONALE ANMELDUNG

(19) Weltorganisation für geistiges Eigentum Internationales Büro



A TORKO BIJURUDI NI RUSHI RODDI 1804 IN DU HARI TOKKO BULUR HIKO DI DINJULI KRIK TIDI DURK

(43) Internationales Veröffentlichungsdatum 15. März 2001 (15.03.2001)

PCT

(10) Internationale Veröffentlichungsnummer WO 01/18632 A2

(51) Internationale Patentklassifikation7:

- (21) Internationales Aktenzeichen:
- PCT/EP00/08704

G06F 1/00

- (22) Internationales Anmeldedatum: 6. September 2000 (06.09.2000)
- (25) Einreichungssprache:

Deutsch

(26) Veröffentlichungssprache:

Deutsch

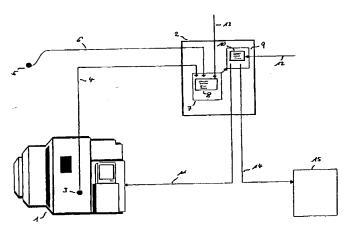
- (30) Angaben zur Priorität: 6. September 1999 (06.09.1999) 199 42 430.6
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- (81) Bestimmungsstaaten (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Bestimmungsstaaten (regional): ARIPO-Patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), eurasisches Patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR MONITORING AND CONTROLLING THE OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM OR PROCESSOR SYSTEM

(54) Bezeichnung: VERFAHREN BZW. VORRICHTUNG ZUR ÜBERWACHUNG UND STEUERUNG DES BETRIEBSVER-HALTENS EINES COMPUTER- ODER PROZESSORSYSTEMS



(57) Abstract: In order to monitor and control the operational performance of a computer system or processor system (1), operational parameters of individual components as well as environmental parameters of the computer system or processor system (1) are detected. Said parameters are compared with predetermined limit values. If it is determined that one or more of the detected operational parameters and environmental parameters have exceeded or fallen below of the predetermined limit values, an operational event is determined based on the limit values that have been exceeded or fallen below of. A reaction is selected from a number of predetermined reaction patterns according to the determined operational event, and a control command which corresponds to this reaction and which is provided for altering the operational performance is transmitted to the computer to be monitored. This enables an early detection of the occurrence of faults as wells as the initiation of an appropriate measure.

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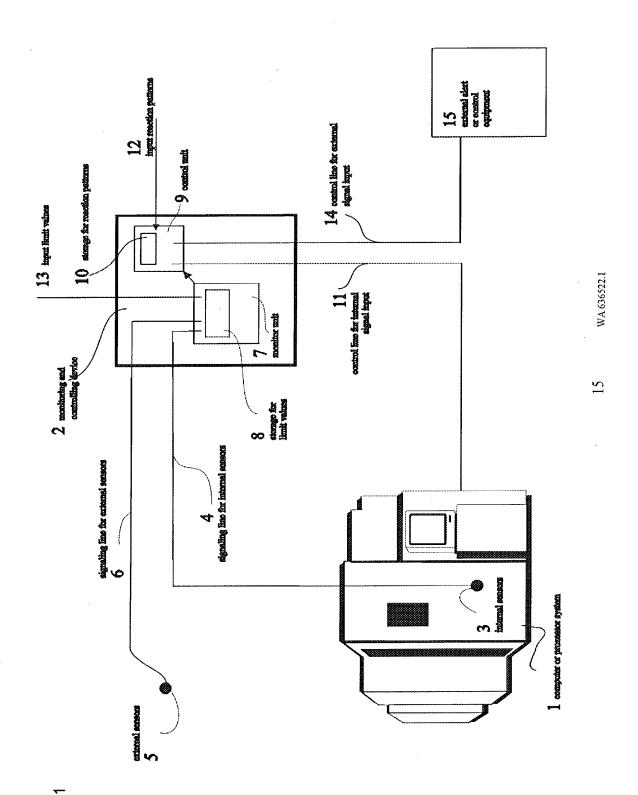


Fig. 1

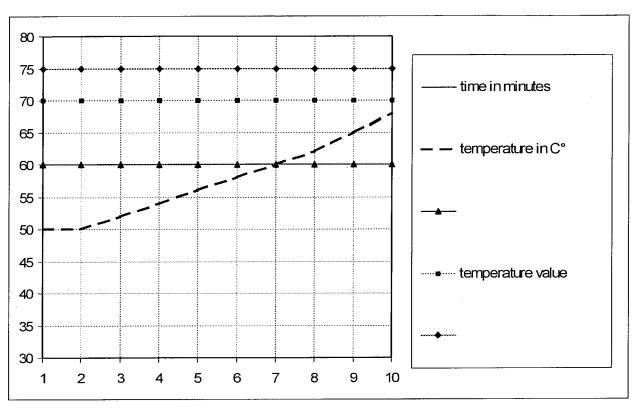


Fig. 2

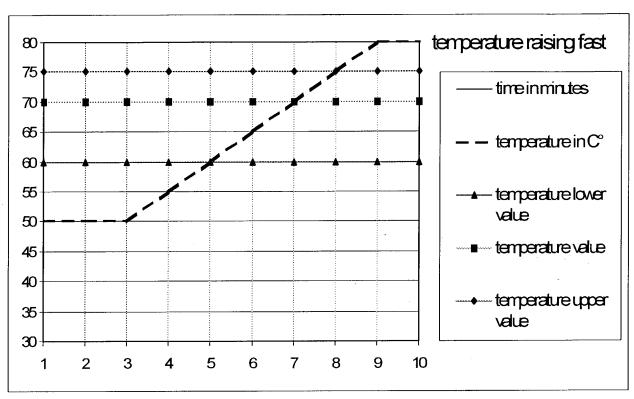


Fig. 3

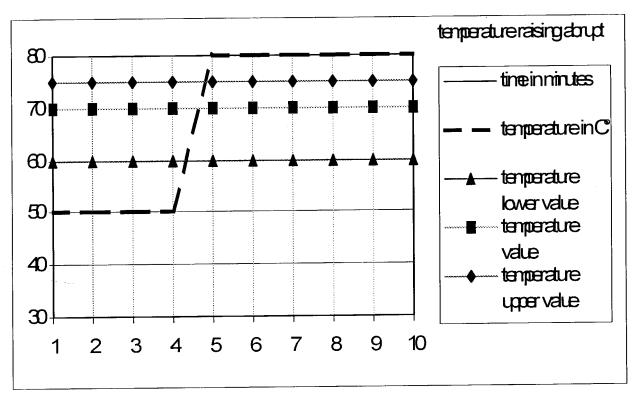


Fig. 4

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	Attorney Docket Number		5007546-1				
DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN		First Named Inventor PLA		PLANKI,	LANKI, Peter		
PATENT APPL	COMPLETE IF KNOWN						
(37 CFR 1		Application Number	10		070,528		
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Declaration Submitted OR	Decisration Submitted after initial	Art Unit					
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As the below named inventor, I here	eby declare that:						
My residence, mailing address, and ci		w next to my name.				•	
I believe I am the original and first inve			ich a pa	itent ls soug	ght on the invent	tion entitled:	
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Method and L	Device for Monitoring	and Controlling the	Optic	iiai seric	ormance		
the specification of which							
is attached hereto							
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I hereby state that I have reviewed and any amendment specifically referred to	d understand the contents of above.	f the above identified speck	fication	, including ti	he claime, as ar	mended by	
I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to palentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation in part application.							
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Prior Foreign Application Number(s) Country		Foreign Filling Date (MM/DD/YYYY)		riority Claimed	Certified Cop	y Attached?	
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Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto: [Page 1 of 2]							

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City Country Telephane Fax I I wasty declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and the statement and on information and petter are believed to be true; and further that these catements were made with the knowledge list willful face statements and the like as made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful face statements may proputate true willful for explication or any patent issued thereon. NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned Inventor Given Name (first and middle (if any)) Inventor's Signature Munich Residence: City Herzog-Heinrich-Strasse 25 Mailing Address Munich Germany City NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Given Name (first and middle (if any)) Family Name Cuntry Country Country Country Date Residence: City State Germany Germany Germany Germany Germany Given Name (first and middle (if any)) Family Name Country Date State Stoffen State Stoffen City State Stoffen State Supplemental Additional inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached heretu.	Nerne						
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Residence: City State Country Citizenship Horzog-Heinrich-Strasse 25 Mailing Address Munich State ZiP Country NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Given Name (Sarl-Heinz (Family Name Lettmair er Surneme Inventor's Signatura City State Germany German Residence: City State Country DEX Grizenship Sportplatzetr. 26 Moiling Address Stoffen State ZiP Country City State Country DEX Grizenship City State ZiP Country Additional inventors are being named on thesupplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached heretu.	Inventor's Signature Man	ez				Date	
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		Application Number	10/070,528
]		Filing Date	03/06/2002
	A	First Named Inventor	PLANKI, Peter
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		Attorney Docket Number	5007546-1
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	Peter Planki	7	
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NOTE: Signatures of all the Inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple

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10/070,528 Application Number Filing Date 03/06/2002 PLANKI, Poter First Named Inventor Method and Device for Monitoring Title Group Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number 5007546-1

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Statement under 37 OFR 3.73(b) is enclased. (Farm PTO/SB/96).							
	// SIGNATURE of Applicant or Ass	Ignee of Record					
Name Karl-heinz Lettmair							
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